

1
B
cotton candy. In one embodiment of the invention, the container has a flat bottom and therefore may be stacked on a flat display shelf along with other traditional food items. The present invention therefore eliminates the need for an awkward and cumbersome display tree or rack for displaying the cotton candy product. The product is easy to remove and re-stock on a shelf. Special delicate handling of the product is also no longer necessary.

In the specification, page 15, the first full paragraph has been amended as follows:

2
B
Container body 20 is referred to herein as a "rigid" container body, and is preferably formed of a suitable moldable synthetic or plastic material, such as polypropylene. The rigidity of container body 20 is relative, and the container body is significantly rigid and self-supporting relative to the non-rigidity or flimsiness of a plastic bag which is utilized in the prior art for packaging and marketing pre-made cotton candy. The container body 20 is rigid enough to define a generally static volume within and hold its shape and generally prevent the fluffy wad 10 from being easily compressed or smashed. Particularly, the container body 20 is sufficiently rigid to hold its shape and withstand greater pressures thereon than would a flimsy prior art plastic bag. While polypropylene is one suitable plastic material for forming rigid container body 20, other plastics and suitable materials might also be utilized to mold container body 20. A container formed of polypropylene of a particular construction

B² has been found to be suitably rigid, and to provide a

In the specification, page 23, the first paragraph has been amended and reads as follows:

B³ In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, cotton candy is presented to a consumer within a significantly rigid container for direct consumption from the container. The container is configured to stackably engage another container. More specifically, the lid 30 is configured to stackably engage a bottom of another similar rigid container body, and the container is sufficiently rigid or self-supporting to stackably support another container without compressing the cotton candy therein. Referring to Figure 2, the plurality of stacked containers may then be placed in a rectangular shipping structure 40, such as a box, for shipment. The rigid container protects the fragile cotton candy wad 10, and prevents it from being smashed or otherwise damaged due to the weight of the other product stacked above each wad. This further increases the profitability of the cotton candy maker.

In the claims, claims 1, 4, 7-9, 15, 25, 30, 31, 32, 35 and 36 are rewritten as follows:

- B⁴
1. A method of marketing and selling cotton candy comprising:
forming cotton candy from molten sugar to form a fluffy wad of cotton candy;